



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/000,317	10/23/2001	Andreas Goers	PHB71696	8927

7590

12/10/2003

ABB Inc.
29801 Euclid Avenue-4U6
Wickliffe, OH 44092-1898

EXAMINER

DEBERADINIS, ROBERT L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2836

DATE MAILED: 12/10/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/000,317

Applicant(s)

GOERS ET AL.

Examiner

Robert DeBeradinis

Art Unit

2836

Aw

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 October 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 October 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____. 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

The specification is objected to because the arrangement of the specification does not conform to the guide lines set forth in the MPEP.

Drawings

Figures 1, 2 are objected to because the functional boxes should be labeled with their functional names.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by BOESCH 5,822,547.

Regarding claim 1.

BOESCH discloses a method of shutting down a pluggable electrical unit(14) in a modular system comprising a base unit (computer) and at least one pluggable electrical unit, each pluggable electrical unit having module electronics and a switch (46), which is coupled to a mechanical locking of the pluggable electrical unit in the base unit, and the interface between the base unit and the pluggable electrical unit being provided with a variable resistor (54), arranged in the feed line, and switching means, via which the

Art Unit: 2836

module electronics are communicatively connected to the base unit (column 4, lines 59-65),

BOESCH teaches the steps:

The locking of the pluggable electrical unit (14) is unlocked,

During the unlocking of the pluggable electrical unit to be removed, the switch (46) is activated,

Communication operations in progress between the base unit and the pluggable unit to be removed are terminated.

The communication connection routed via the switching means is disconnected and the module electronics of the pluggable electrical unit to be removed are isolated from the base unit and

The variable resistor (54) is brought in a controlled manner into its high resistance state (column 4, lines 44-65).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. RASUMS US 6,026,458.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Robert L. DeBeradinis whose number is (703) 306- 5857. The Examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

Application/Control Number: 10/000,317
Art Unit: 2836

Page 4

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus, can be reached on (703) 308-3119. The Fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-7722.

RLD

DECEMBER 4, 2003

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert A. Braden". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the date.